34. If you cannot step across from the top of the Isolated Buttress, there are other ways of getting off after finishing a climb.
Reversing the top traverse of Boulder Bridge Route starting at the top of Crowborough Comet, and scramble across the jammed boulder and up the tree on the other side. This can be protected from the bolt on the north-east corner of the buttress above Wailing Wall.
Or fix a light rope from the bolt above Edwards’s Effort to the tree in line with the step across. Clip the rope to your harness and use it as a handrail to protect the step. Take a spare 25 metre static rope for this.

35. Visitors needing advice should contact the Warden before their first visit.
Tel: 01892 862924. Mobile 07977 950858 or email: info@evolutionindoorclimbing.co.uk
Crowborough TN6 1UX.
Harrison’s Rocks Warden: Chris Tullis, Evolution
Tel: 01892 515532.

36. Disabled climbers and those responsible for special needs groups are recommended to contact the Warden before their first visit.

37. Advance notice (24 hours) must be given to the High Rocks

38. The Hut Boulder may be accessed using a static rope
Do not use the access rope for top rope climbing.
The access rope is thrown down over the top of the boulder.
This can be protected from the bolt on top of Wailing Wall.
Or fix a light rope from the bolt above Edwards’s Effort to the tree in line with the step across. Clip the rope to your harness and use it as a handrail to protect the step. Take a spare 25 metre static rope for this.

The following ‘commandments’ have been adapted from Simon Panton’s North Wales Bouldering guidebook, and should be taken as the rules by which the future access to, and safeguarding of the Southern Sandstone crags can be assured. We should all learn to tread a little more lightly, making sure that we leave the crags and boulders - that we love so dearly - as we would like to find them. That means picking up any rubbish that we find, not leaving excessive chalk on the rock and challenging anybody we see wrecking the place.

1. No clipping whatsoever. On sandstone, heavy brushing/cleaning can have the same effect.
2. No wire or hard nylon brushing.
Use a soft nylon brush or a cloth very gently if absolutely necessary.
3. Use as little chalk as possible. The sandstone has chalk in it and any chalk marks at the end of your session.
4. Gently brush away any excessive build-up of chalk and any tick marks.
5. Use a non-stretch belay rope or sling.
❖ Make sure the karabiner hangs over the edge of the crag.
❖ Make sure moving or stretching ropes do not come into contact with the rock.
❖ Do not drop litter at the crag, and be sure to take home any that you find.
❖ Do not leave carpet patches at the crag.
❖ No gardening of indigenous vegetation.
❖ Do not blow torching. If you come across vegetation that you find, not leaving excessive chalk on the rock and challenging anybody we see

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PROTECTING THE ROCK

Footwear
1. Wear light soft-soled footwear. If you do not have specialist rock boots, lightweight gym shoes are best. Clean your shoes before starting each climb.

Climbing Style
2. Top-roping and solosing are the only acceptable methods. Do not use pitons, bolts, nuts, camming devices or any sort of leader protection.
3. Choose a climb of the right standard. Please do not spend a lot of time ‘diagnosing’ a climb that is too hard.
4. Please keep the use of chalk to a minimum. Do not use resin powder, which blocks up the pores in the rock and poisons the holds.
5. Avoid cleaning holds if possible, but if cleaning is essential, do it gently with a soft brush or cloth.

Setting up a Belay
6. The rock is softer when wet. If it is wet, climb carefully and try to stop your feet skidding on sloping holds.
7. Never climb with axes and crampons, even on the rare occasions when ice forms on the rock.
8. At Bowles, Harrison’s, Stone Farm and Bulls Hollow, belay anchors have been installed at the top of most climbs. Do not thread the climbing rope through these, but set up a non-stretch belay. It is easiest to use static belay rope of 1.5mm diameter. 5 metres is a convenient length, and it is also useful to have a longer belay rope of 12 metres when there is no anchor and you are using a tree as the anchor point. Putting a permanent sleeve around the knot just above the karabiner helps to protect both the belay rope and the rock. Belay ropes can be bought from the Warden of Harrison’s Rocks. Alternatively, tape slings can be used.
9. When setting up a belay, adjust the height of the karabiner to hang far enough over the edge of the crag so that the climbing rope will not touch the rock.
10. Moving or stretching ropes should never come into contact with the rock. The sawing action destroys the weathered crust and cuts deep grooves in the top of the crag. A static climbing rope is better than a dynamic one.
11. On an isolated buttress, the first member of a party will usually have to solo to the top. Do not throw a rope over the buttress from the ground.

Descending
12. Walk off after completing a climb, do not lower off or abseil.
13. On isolated buttresses all members of a party except the last should down-climb on a slack rope, and the last member should solo down.

Absailing
14. Please do not abseil at any Southern Sandstone crag. The top of the crag and the fragile holds on the face will be damaged. Absailing is not permitted by the owners of Eridge Green, Harrison’s, High Rocks and Stone Farm.
15. Unfortunately this still happens from time to time, for example graffiti, chipping new holds or enlarging existing holds. If you see anyone doing this, please stop them.

Preserving the Crag Environment

Ground Erosion
16. Use established descent paths. Step on rock rather than earth, and avoid treading on vegetation if possible.

Trees and Vegetation
17. If there is no belay anchor, it is usually necessary to belay to a tree. Tie the belay rope round the tree as low as possible to minimise leverage. Please do not cut down or prune trees.
18. Do not use herbicides for cleaning vegetation from the rock. Regrowth will occur and it will be the commonest species that re-colonise, the rare species being eliminated.

Camping
19. Do not camp, bivouac, light fires or store near the crags. There is a campsite next to the car-park at Harrison’s Rocks.
20. Please avoid the most popular climbs at weekends, particularly Sundays. Limit the time your group occupies a climb or a section of the crag. Remove ropes when you have stopped using a climb.

Notes for Leaders of Organised Groups
21. Choose climbs to suit the ability of the group. If members are having trouble on a climb, do not throw a rope over the buttress.

Crag Specific Notes
22. The Climbers’ Club Guide to Southern Sandstone 2008 by Mike Vetterlein and Robin Maguire details the crags and their access arrangements at the time of publication. Access arrangements may change. Keep up to date by checking climbing magazines or the BMC Access Database.

Bowles Rocks
23. Bowles is owned by an outdoor education trust. Instructors teach students abseiling at the rocks, using only designated areas and taking great care not to damage the rock.

Eridge Green Rocks
24. Eridge Green Rocks is part of a nature reserve owned by the Sussex Wildlife Trust (tel: 01273 492630). The site is of national importance both for its rare mosses, lichens and other lower plants, and for geological reasons. Some plants found here are internationally threatened. It also has archaeological importance.

25. There are wire extension anchors at the top of many climbs, except the last should down-climb on a slack rope, or abseil.
26. Do not use herbicides for clearing vegetation from the rock. Regrowth will occur and it will be the commonest species that re-colonise, the rare species being eliminated.

Malicious Damage
15. Unfortunately this still happens from time to time, for example graffiti, chipping new holds or enlarging existing holds. If you see anyone doing this, please stop them.

Good Practice Now Will Help to Preserve the Crag for Future Generations of Climbers

Notes for Leaders of Organised Groups
20. Please avoid the most popular climbs at weekends, particularly Sundays. Limit the time your group occupies a climb or a section of the crag. Remove ropes when you have stopped using a climb.
21. Choose climbs to suit the ability of the group. If members are having trouble on a climb their feet will slip repeatedly causing rock erosion. Try something easier.

Harrison’s Rocks
21. Please approach the crag from the Groombridge entrance. The speed limit on the approach road and in the car-park is 15mph. Park in the car-park and do not obstruct the access road.
22. There are two approaches from the car-park. The lower path, which starts below the toilets, is recommended as this will minimise ground erosion.
23. Please leave a donation towards the upkeep of the Rocks, car-park and facilities on your way out. £1 per vehicle is suggested.